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PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 87th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 29 July 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. SHIHABI (Saudi Arabia)

- Tribute to the memory of Mohamed Boudiaf, President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

- Tribute to the memory of Francis Bugotu, Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations

- Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (Article 19 of the Charter) [114] (continued)

- Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: report of the General Committee [8] (continued)

  (a) Request for the reopening of agenda item 116 submitted by the United States of America

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This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the Official Records of the General Assembly.

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- (b) Note by the Secretary-General requesting reopening of the consideration of agenda item 120

- Programme of work

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF MOHAMED BOUDIAF, PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF FRANCIS BUGOTU, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SOLOMON ISLANDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): It is my sad duty, this morning, to express condolences on the tragic death of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Before the tragedy that took his life, Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf was one of the most eminent personalities of the Algerian National Movement and a great son of Algeria, of the Arab nation and of the African continent. He played a historic role in the long struggle for Algerian independence and was a dedicated patriot, working all his life for the highest interests of his country and his people. At the beginning of this year, out of his untiring dedication to his country, Mr. Boudiaf responded to the call of national duty to serve his country as President of the Supreme State Council, for which he ultimately sacrificed his life.

President Boudiaf's tragic death is a great loss for Algeria and for all of us here, who appreciate Algeria's role in the history of the Arab nation, the African continent, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations.

On behalf of the General Assembly, I request the representative of Algeria to convey our heartfelt condolences to the Government and people of Algeria and to the bereaved family.

It is also my sad duty to recall to the Assembly the passing away of His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu, Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations.

(The President)

Ambassador Bugotu had a distinguished and constructive career as a respected civil servant and diplomat. At the time of his death, on 9 July 1992, Ambassador Bugotu was also serving as Ambassador to the United States and as High Commissioner to Canada. He will be remembered for the devotion with which he served his country and the cause of the United Nations.

On behalf of all his friends and colleagues assembled here, I should like to express to his family and to the Government and people of Solomon Islands our profound and sincere condolences.

I now call on the Secretary-General.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL (interpretation from Arabic): While individuals perish, peoples live on. A human being passes from the scene, but principles endure. In that spirit, the noble ideals and principles for which the late leader Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf devoted his life have not vanished with him. To the contrary, they have grown stronger, not only among the Algerian people but also in the hearts of people the world over who cherish stability, security and peace.

(spoke in French)

When the news of the assassination of Mohamed Boudiaf traveled around the world, I happened to be in Dakar on the occasion of the Summit Conference of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Like everyone else, I was taken aback and alarmed, thinking first of the singular destiny of this righteous man whom life had repeatedly propelled into wholly unique circumstances. My thoughts then turned to Algeria, whose struggle for independence I lived as if my own - that Arab country racked with concerns about its destiny, which had once again paused, uncertain. I condemned the appalling attack and conveyed to the family of Mohamed Boudiaf my sincere and heartfelt condolences.

(The Secretary-General)

Amidst the African Heads of State or Government gathered at Dakar, I was readily able to gauge how action in the public arena succeeded in but a few months - barely six in the case of Mohamed Boudiaf - in transforming a man hitherto unknown to the masses into a powerful, vivid and evocative figure. The image of honesty and integrity, and of fidelity to principles that Mohamed Boudiaf was beginning to make known far beyond his country's borders turned in a few hours into a symbol that even some of those who had opposed or perhaps misunderstood him shared in their hearts.

That symbol of probity and of devotion to the common good that Mohamed Boudiaf will forever represent in his country's memory, is daily growing stronger, clearer and more highly respected. It is the most stinging response individuals can make to violence and fanaticism; it is the most trenchant reply to his murderers.

(spoke in English)

I want now to pay a tribute to the memory of Francis Bugotu, Ambassador of Solomon Islands to the United Nations.

I was profoundly saddened to learn of the passing of Ambassador Francis Bugotu on 9 July. In his two years at the United Nations, Ambassador Bugotu displayed the same commitment to promoting international understanding he had shown throughout his distinguished career in Solomon Islands and in his service abroad.

I wish to join with others in paying a tribute to his memory. May I convey my profound condolences to the Government of Solomon Islands and to Mr. Bugotu's family.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I invite representatives to stand and observe a minute of silence in tribute to the memory of the late President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, and of the late Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu.

The members of the General Assembly observed a minute of silence.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Madagascar, Mr. Noel Rakotondramboa, who will speak on behalf of the African States.

Mr. RAKOTONDRAMBOA (Madagascar) (interpretation from French): It is my honour to speak on behalf of the Group of African States.

We were dismayed to learn of the violent death on 29 June of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. In him, Africa lost another of its valiant sons; we saw in him both a historic leader of the Algerian revolution and, first and foremost, a courageous statesman firmly determined to restore political, economic and social stability in his country. He shouldered his responsibilities at a time that was crucial for the destiny of his country, fully aware of the dangers and challenges they entailed, and despite his age.

On behalf of the Group of African States, I convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the Supreme State Council, to the Government and people of Algeria, and to the family of the deceased.

It is also with deep sadness that we learned of the death on 9 July of His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations. Though his tenure among us was brief, we have the best of memories

(Mr. Rakotondramboa, Madagascar)

of him. During his brilliant career in the service of his country and his people, he successfully held a number of major posts.

I wish on behalf of the Group of African States to convey our sincere condolences to the Government and people of Solomon Islands, as well as to the family of the deceased.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call next on the representative of Papua New Guinea, Ambassador Renagi Renagi Lohia, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Asian States.

Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea): Great leaders are born to the people, to the community and to the world, all in the good plans of our gods, who placed us on Earth. The plan is for us to come and to go in a way that is good, both on Earth and in heaven. But the death of the late President Mohamed Boudiaf was not one of those forms of passing acceptable to living dear ones and to colleagues. Therefore, the world and this Assembly must condemn all such cruel acts against great leaders and great people - and even against ordinary people.

(Mr. Lohia, Papua New Guinea)

The world community must stand tall holding high the principles of good living and of respect for life and good deeds. Leaders are given to people to provide leadership for their good and for the good of the people of the world. If there is to be peace and security in the world, it must start from individuals and groups. Therefore, we, as individuals, peoples from the grass roots to the highest authorities in all our nations, must secure the authority of law and justice for all.

Therefore, it was with great sadness that the Asian Group learned of the passing of an important and dedicated leader of Algeria. On their behalf, it is my honoured duty to request our colleague the Permanent Representative of Algeria and his delegation to convey to their Government and people our heartfelt condolences and to let them know that we share with them and all their friends their burden of sorrow.

By the same token, we grieve the loss of Ambassador Francis Bugotu, a very dear friend and colleague, a man who served his people both from the village to the Government of Solomon Islands, and then to the South Pacific region, where he became the Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission. Having served for many years in the Pacific, Ambassador Bugotu was then sent to the United Nations to serve not only his people in the region and his country but the world community as a whole.

God has plans for everyone. He knew that Francis had served his people, his family and the world community, and that times like these come to all of us. Whilst he has passed away, we know that his spirit is with us.

It is a traditional belief in many of our communities, in Asia, Africa, Latin America and everywhere, that all flesh born to the world perishes, but that the spirit lives on. It is from this belief that we gain strength and a

(Mr. Lohia, Papua New Guinea)

sense of togetherness, brotherhood and sisterhood.

We pay a tribute to our dear friend and colleague, and a leader in his own right, and request that the Chargé d'affaires of the Mission of Solomon Islands convey to the Government and people of Solomon Islands and to the bereaved familiy of Francis Bugotu the condolences of the States members of the Asian Group to the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Ukraine, Mr. Viktor Kryzhanivskiy, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. KRYZHANIVSKIY (Ukraine): In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States, I should like to pay a tribute to the late President Mohamed Boudiaf. An outstanding politician, he contributed greatly to obtaining his country's independence. Despite being in exile for almost 30 years, President Boudiaf was always with his people. He never stopped his efforts to build his country into a prosperous and democratic society. In a very complicated period of time for his country, Mohamed Boudiaf was sworn in as Head of the Presidential Council of Algeria. He displayed his courage and took full responsibility for the destiny of his country. Though Mohamed Boudiaf's tragic death prevented him from implementing all of his plans and dreams, the memory of the outstanding politician and individual that he was will remain with us.

I should also like to pay a tribute to the late Ambassador Francis Bugotu. For the last few years, Ambassador Bugotu had represented his country in the United Nations while at the same time serving as Ambassador to the United States and High Commissioner to Canada. He contributed greatly to the strengthening of Solomon Islands' independence and, as a Permanent

(Mr. Kryzhanivskiy, Ukraine)

Representative to the United Nations, to cooperation among States in their efforts to strengthen international peace and security. His memory will long endure.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Mr. Kingsley Layne, who will speak on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

Mr. LAYNE (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines): The Governments and peoples of the member countries comprising the Latin American and Caribbean Group extend their sincere condolences to the Government and people of Algeria on the untimely and tragic death of President Mohamed Boudiaf, which occurred on 29 June 1992.

We also wish to express heartfelt condolences to the Government and people of Solomon Islands as they mourn the loss of His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

The assassin's bullet has silenced the voice of yet another great personality. President Boudiaf will always be remembered for his role in his country's struggle for independence. As an elder statesman, his wise counsels and sound judgements will forever be lost. His country and many others will greatly miss him and the leadership he gave, particularly at this time. The perpetrators of this dastardly act must be punished to the full extent of the law.

The news of the sudden passing of Ambassador Francis Bugotu on 9 July 1992 was received with shock and profound sadness.

As colleagues, we cannot help but remember the genial Francis with his winning smile and pleasant personality. It is somehow fitting that he died

(Mr. Layne, St. Vincent and the Grenadines)

playing the sport he loved, among many friends and colleagues from the entire South Pacific region, who were attending the twenty-third South Pacific Forum, which was being hosted by Solomon Islands.

Ambassador Bugotu's credentials as a representative of his country have won him the respect and admiration of people within his homeland, in the South Pacific region and generally, within the international community.

The Solomon Islands now mourn the loss of a distinguished son, an educator, a diplomat, a politician and a sportsman. The South Pacific region and the international community have lost a friend and a statesman. He will be sadly missed.

On behalf of the Latin American and Carribean Group of countries, the respective delegations of Algeria and Solomon Islands are kindly requested to convey expressions of our sympathy to the bereaved families of President Boudiaf and Ambassador Bugotu.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on Mr. Thomas Hajnoczi of Austria, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States.

Mr. HAJNOCZI (Austria): On behalf of the Group of Western European and other States, I have the sad duty to convey, through the delegation of Algeria, our sincere condolences to the Government and people of Algeria on the tragic and untimely death of His Excellency Mohamed Boudiaf, President of Algeria and President of its Supreme State Council. We are still shocked by the heinous assassination of the late President of Algeria. He will be remembered as an outstanding leader of his country, both during the liberation process and at this critical juncture of Algeria's history. He stood for courage and values. With his passing away, the people and Government of Algeria have lost a dedicated patriot and hero, and the international community has lost a statesman whose contributions to promoting peace and international understanding will be missed.

Let me also seize this occasion to express our grief and sorrow at the death of our esteemed and amiable colleague, the late Permanent Representative of the Solomon Islands, Mr. Francis Bugotu. Our respectful condolences go to his family, the United Nations Mission and the Government of the Solomon Islands.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of the United States, the host country.

Mr. HICKS (United States of America): As representative of the host country, it is with deep sadness that I speak to express the profound condolences of the Government and people of the United States of America, and the personal sympathy of Ambassador Perkins, to the people and Government of

(Mr. Hicks, United States)

Algeria upon the tragic death of the Supreme State Council President, Mohamed Boudiaf. He was a patriot who served his country both in its struggle for liberation and in its hour of greatest need.

We deeply regret the assassination of President Boudiaf and the death and injuries of others during the 29 June violence in the town of Annaba. We condemn this act of political violence and have called upon all parties in Algeria to avoid further bloodshed. Violence simply cannot be the solution to Algeria's problems.

As representative of the host country, it is also with deep sorrow that I recognize the untimely loss of our colleague, Ambassador Francis Bugotu, Permanent Representative of the Solomon Islands to the United Nations. Ambassador Bugotu was a dedicated representative of his country and a deft defender of its interests in this international chamber and other global forums. He served his country with dignity and dedication until his unexpected death during the South Pacific Heads of Government meeting on 9 July 1992.

On behalf of the Government and people of the United States of America, I wish to convey our deepest condolences and those of Ambassador Perkins to the family of Ambassador Bugotu and to the Government, people and delegation he served so ably.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Algeria.

Mr. HADID (Algeria) (interpretation from French): Mr. President, I should like first, on behalf of my Government, to express our deep thanks to you, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, to all the spokespersons of the regional groups, as

(Mr. Hadid, Algeria)

well as to the representative of the host country, all of whom were kind enough to extend their sympathy and express their condolences to us. The tragic passing of President Mohamed Boudiaf, the victim of a cowardly assassination, is a heavy burden for the people of Algeria, who have been distresseed by this unspeakable crime against a figure who symbolized the Algerian national movement, a militant of unanimously recognized integrity, a man of dialogue and openness, who fought to his very last breath for the triumph of freedom, dignity and progress. The memory of President Boudiaf will remain forever alive in the minds of an entire people with whom he will always be identified.

The Algerian people and its leaders, determined to pursue the work of President Boudiaf, who committed Algeria to a resolute march towards stability, democracy and progress, find a precious source of comfort in the display of friendship and support which have come to us from throughout the world.

We have been very touched today at the renewal of this expression of feelings of sympathy and support, and I should like, on behalf of my Government, once again to express our gratitude to you, Mr. President, to the Secretary-General and to all the delegations that have joined, through the spokespersons of the regional groups or individually, in paying homage to President Boudiaf.

I shall not fail to transmit to the Government of Algeria as well as to the members of the family of President Boudiaf all the expressions of sympathy which have come to us in this Assembly.

I should also like to join the voice of my delegation with the condolences addressed to the Government and delegation of the Solomon Islands

(Mr. Hadid, Algeria)

upon the occasion of the passing away of Ambassador Bugotu. He will be sadly missed by his many friends in the United Nations, where he was esteemed by us all.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): May I repeat my condolences to the Algerian Government and people.

I now call on Mr. Bata'anisia of the Solomon Islands.

Mr. BATA'ANISIA (Solomon Islands): I have the honour to say a few words of thanks to everyone on the special occasion when we pay tribute to our dear colleague, His Excellency Francis Bugotu, the Solomon Islands Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, who passed away on 9 July 1992, while attending the Heads of the South Pacific Forum meeting held in Honiara, Solomon Islands. On behalf of the Government and people of the Solomon Islands and of the family of the late Mr. Francis Bugotu, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. President, the Secretary-General, the spokesmen of the regional groups and members of the respective Governments, for the messages of sympathy and condolences that we have received. Your valuable support and words of encouragement have been valued very much by our Government and people.

(Mr. Bata'anisia, Solomon Islands)

Solomon Islands has lost a very valuable man, a man who really served his country and his people in the South Pacific region and in the world body today. Nevertheless, may I assure you all that Solomon Islands will continue to attach great importance to this world body, and my Government is now in the process of identifying a suitable replacement for the late Mr. Francis Bugotu here at the United Nations.

Before concluding, I should like, on behalf of the Government and people of Solomon Islands, to pay tribute to the late President of Algeria following the tragic news of his death. I wish also to convey my Government's sincere condolences to the Algerian Mission to the United Nations. To all of our colleagues here at the United Nations, I will surely pass on your messages of sympathy to my Government and people and to the family of the late Mr. Francis Bugotu.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I thank the representative of Solomon Islands for his kind words, and may I repeat my condolences.

The following representatives have requested to speak on a point of order: the United States, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Austria, Australia, Slovenia, Croatia and Yugoslavia. I now call on the representative of the United States of America.

Mr. HICKS (United States of America): In a letter dated 5 May 1992 from the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, addressed to the President of the Security Council, the United States stated that serious questions had arisen regarding whether Serbia-Montenegro was the continuation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. We

(Mr. Hicks, United States)

stated further that until such time as these questions were resolved, the participation of the representatives of Serbia-Montenegro in the activities of the Security Council or the General Assembly should be viewed as without prejudice to the disposition of these questions.

Since our communication of 5 May, the Security Council, in resolution 757 (1992) of 30 May, noted that

> "the claim by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to continue automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations has not been generally accepted" (Security Council resolution 757 (1992), tenth preambular paragraph).

We strongly believe that the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia no longer exists, that Serbia-Montenegro is not the continuation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and that therefore Serbia-Montenegro is not entitled to assume the seat of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations.

As in other membership questions, we believe this issue needs to be settled by actions of the General Assembly upon recommendations of the Security Council. We believe such actions should be taken as soon as possible. Until that time, however, the participation of Serbia-Montenegro in the activities of the United Nations should continue to be viewed as without prejudice to this question.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of the United Kingdom.

Mr. WOOD (United Kingdom): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Community and its member States. The European Community and its member States have recalled on numerous occasions that they have not accepted the automatic continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in international organizations, including the United Nations. They reiterated this position in their declaration of 20 July, in which they noted that the new federation formed by Serbia and Montenegro cannot be accepted as the sole successor to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Questions relating to Yugoslavia's membership remain under consideration in international organizations, including the United Nations. The presence of representatives of Serbia and Montenegro at United Nations meetings is accordingly without prejudice to the position of the European Community and its Member States and to further action they may take to oppose the participation of Yugoslavia in the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Iceland.

Mr. SIGURDSSON (Iceland): I have asked to speak in order to address an important point of procedure on behalf of the Nordic countries - Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland. The Nordic countries wish to associate themselves with the statement just made by the representative of the United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of the member States of the European Community, on the same point of procedure.

In the view of the Nordic Governments, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, a new entity made up of only two former Yugoslav Republics, is not to be automatically regarded as the successor State of Federal Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia. The issue should be solved through appropriate admission procedures in the relevant internationl institutions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Austria.

Mr. HAJNOCZI (Austria): In a statement we circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council dated 5 May 1992 and on many other occasions since then, the position of the Austrian Government has been clearly defined: There is no legal basis for an automatic continuation of the legal existence of the former, now defunct, Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by the new federation of Serbia and Montenegro, which therefore cannot be considered to continue the Yugoslav Membership in the United Nations.

For an eventual international recognition of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the criteria contained in the guidelines on the recognition of new States adopted by the Council of the European Community on 16 December 1991 should be applied. In this respect, Austria draws special attention to the requirements for the protection of human rights and the rights of ethnic groups.

The presence of representatives of Serbia and Montenegro at United Nations meetings has to be viewed as without prejudice to the disposition of this question. However, we are firmly convinced that this issue should be settled on an urgent basis.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Australia.

Ms. BIRD (Australia): My delegation wishes to place on record that Australia has not accepted the claim of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to be the continuing State of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Australia therefore reserves its position on the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and on issues dealing with its representation in international organizations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Slovenia.

Mr. KERSTEIN (Slovenia): The delegation of Slovenia would like to associate itself with the views just expressed by the representatives of the United States, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Austria and Australia concerning the status and participation of Yugoslavia in the work of international organizations, including the United Nations.

(Mr. Kerstein, Slovenia)

We should like to reiterate the position expressed on several occasions by the Government of Slovenia that the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has ceased to exist, and that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia cannot be an automatic successor to the seat of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the international bodies, including the United Nations.

Therefore, the participation of the delegation of Yugoslavia at this meeting, as well as other meetings of the United Nations, does in no way prejudice the final solution of this problem.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Croatia.

Mr. NOBILO (Croatia): The Republic of Croatia also supports the growing number of Member States that are challenging the membership of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations, which is now claimed by the new, internationally unrecognized federation formed between Serbia and Montenegro. Atrocities committed by Serbia and Montenegro against the civilians of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the "ethnic cleansing" are a clear violation of the United Nations Charter and of international law. This justifies seeking an urgent consensus in the Security Council and the General Assembly on this issue.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Yugoslavia.

Mr. DJOKIĆ (Yugoslavia): The delegation of Yugoslavia has asked for the floor, regrettably, in connection with the statements just delivered by certain representatives regarding the continuity and membership of Yugoslavia in the United Nations. I do not wish to reply to the allegations that have just been expressed by the representative of Croatia, as I feel that the

(Mr. Djokić, Yugoslavia)

rostrum of the General Assembly should not be used for recrimination and confrontation.

Consequently, permit me, Mr. President, to draw the attention of the members of the General Assembly to the following. On 27 April 1992, the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia delivered an official note to the Secretary-General of the United Nations informing him that the Assembly of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, at its session held on 27 April 1992, promulgated the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Under the Constitution, strictly respecting the continuity of the international personality of Yugoslavia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia shall continue to fulfil all the rights conferred to and obligations assumed by the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in international relations, including its membership in all international organizations and participation in international treaties ratified or acceded to by Yugoslavia.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a Founding Member of the United Nations, acknowledges its full commitment to the world Organization, the United Nations Charter, and the Conference on Security and Cooperation (CSC) in Europe as its founding participating State and to all CSC documents, in particular the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia does not claim to be the sole successor of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but does strongly believe that the continuity of Yugoslavia as a State and its legal personality are in accordance with established practice in international relations in all such situations as well as with standard international behavior in similar circumstances, particularly in the United Nations.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is not a new State, but is rather the

(Mr. Djokić, Yugoslavia)

restructuring and continuation of the earlier Yugoslavia, this time within a reduced Territory. Therefore, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia shall continue to pursue Yugoslavia's foreign policy of the broadest possible equitable cooperation with all international factors.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to inform representatives that all the observations thus made will appear in the verbatim records of this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 114 (continued)

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS (ARTICLE 19 OF THE CHARTER) (A/46/868/ADD.2)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to draw the Assembly's attention to document A/46/868/Add.2, which contains a letter addressed to me by the Secretary-General informing me that, since the issuance of his communications dated 4 February and 13 April 1992, Nicaragua has made the necessary payments to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 3 (continued)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK: REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

(a) REQUEST FOR THE REOPENING OF AGENDA ITEM 116 SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (A/46/952)

(b) NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL REQUESTING REOPENING OF THE CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 120 (A/46/934 AND ADD.1)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): We turn now to the letter from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America

(The President)

addressed to the Secretary-General (A/46/952) by which the United States of America, and on behalf of Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Japan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, requests that agenda item 116, "United Nations common system", be reopened as soon as possible during the forty-sixth session of the Assembly in order to enable the Assembly to consider the impact on the United Nations common system of the decision of the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union, at its last session, regarding the payment of special post allowances.

In light of this request, may I take it that the Assembly has no objection to reopening consideration of agenda item 116?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Members will recall that, at its third plenary meeting, on 20 September 1991, the Assembly allocated this item to the Fifth Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly again wishes to allocate this item to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Next, we turn to the request contained in the note by the Secretary-General circulated in document A/46/934. In connection with this request, a report by the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission has been issued as document A/46/934/Add.1.

(The President)

In his note, the Secretary-General informs the General Assembly that in his report to the Security Council (S/23671 and Add.1) he recommended, inter alia, that the mandate, strength and composition of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) be enlarged to include an Office of the Special Representative for Angola to coordinate all United Nations activities related to the Angolan peace process, and an Electoral Division for the purpose of observing and verifying the Angolan electoral process until its completion.

He further informs the Assembly that the Security Council, by its resolution 747 (1992) of 24 March 1992, inter alia, approved his report and decided to enlarge the mandate of UNAVEM II for the remainder of its existing mandate period.

In order to enable the Assembly to consider the financing proposals of the Secretary-General that would permit UNAVEM II to undertake these added responsibilities, it will be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 120, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to reopen consideration of agenda item 120?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): At its 3rd plenary meeting, the Assembly allocated agenda item 120 to the Fifth Committee. May I take it that the Assembly again wishes to allocate agenda item 120 to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): The Chairman of the Fifth Committee will be informed of the decisions just taken.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to inform members that the next plenary meeting of the Assembly will be held on Friday, 31 July, at 10 a.m., to consider the admission of the Republic of Georgia to membership of the United Nations, and the reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda items 116 and 120.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.